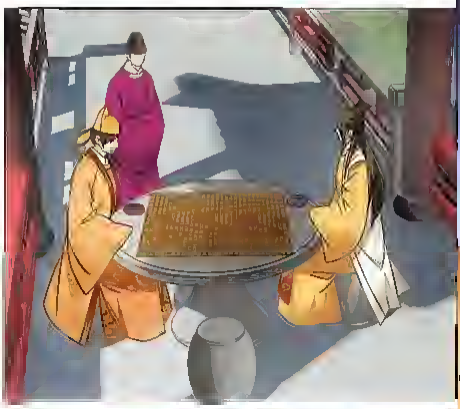
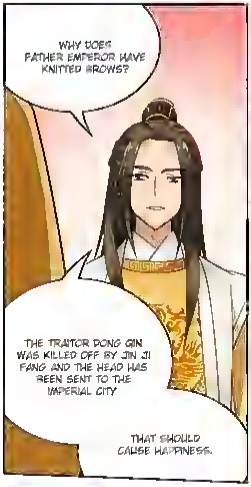
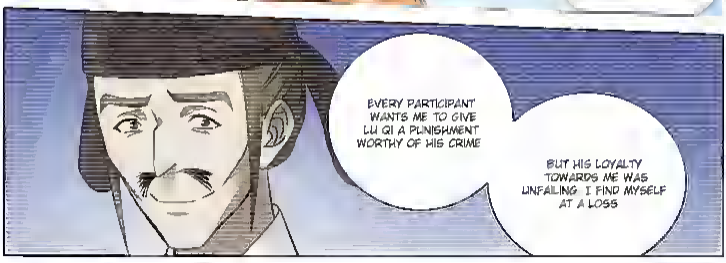
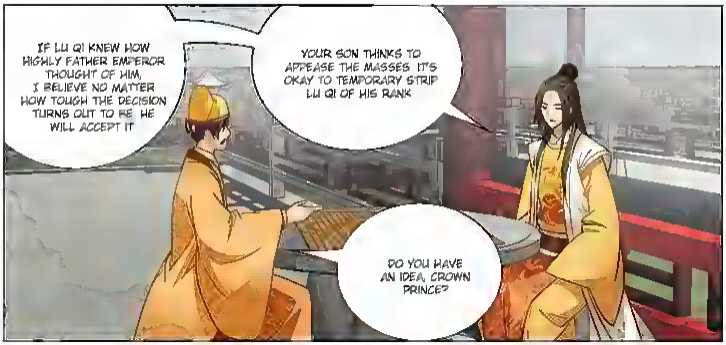


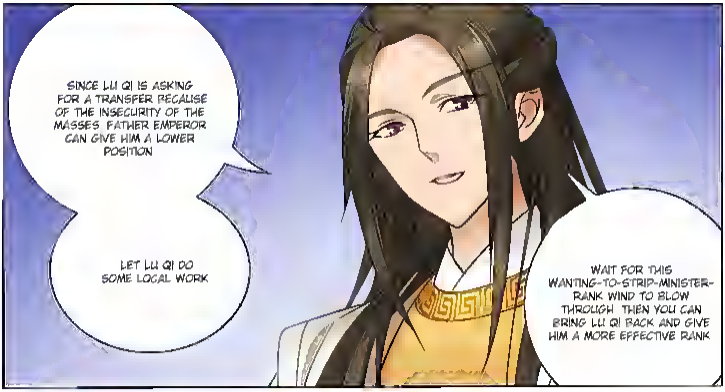
SFX: HESITATE


WHY DOES FATHER EMPEROR HAVE KNITTED BROWS?
THE TRAITOR DONG QIN WAS KILLED OFF BY JIN JI FANG AND THE HEAD HAS BEEN SENT TO THE IMPERIAL CITY
THAT SHOULD CAUSE HAPPINESS.

DONG QIN DESERVED HIS DEATH
BUT NOW ALL THE HIGH-RANK MINISTERS ARE INSTEAD CHASING SU LU QI'S FAULT
SAYING THE CITIZENS WISH FOR ME TO TAKE AWAY LU QI'S PRIME MINISTER STATUS


EVERY PARTICIPANT WANTS ME TO GIVE LU QI A PUNISHMENT WORTHY OF HIS CRIME
BUT HIS LOYALTY TOWARDS ME WAS UNFAILING. I FIND MYSELF AT A LOSS


IF LU QI KNEW HOW HIGHLY FATHER EMPEROR THOUGHT OF HIM, I BELIEVE NO MATTER HOW TOUGH THE DECISION TURNS OUT TO BE, HE WILL ACCEPT IT
YOUR SON THINKS TO APPEASE THE MASSES, IT'S OKAY TO TEMPORARY STRIP LU QI OF HIS RANK
DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA, CROWN PRINCE?


SINCE LU QI IS ASKING FOR A TRANSFER BECAUSE OF THE INSECURITY OF THE MASSES, FATHER EMPEROR CAN GIVE HIM A LOWER POSITION
LET LU QI DO SOME LOCAL WORK
WAIT FOR THIS WANTING-TO-STRIP-MINISTER-RANK WIND TO BLOW THROUGH. THEN YOU CAN BRING LU QI BACK AND GIVE HIM A MORE EFFECTIVE RANK

NOT ONLY CAN IT SECURE MY IMAGE IN FRONT OF THE MASSES AND SATISFY THEM, IT CAN ALSO KEEP LU QI BY MY SIDE
YES, THIS IDEA IS NOT BAD

EXCEPT I FEEL UNEASY MOVING LU QI OUTSIDE
HOW ABOUT THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE? HELP ME ARRANGE IT
THANK YOU FATHER EMPEROR FOR THE TRUST. I WILL DEFINITELY FIND A GOOD POSITION FOR HIM TO MAKE SURE LU QI WILL NOT SUFFER.
GOOD!
COME, LET'S CONTINUE.
Minister Liu really foretold it like a prophet...

AH LANG IS BACK
YES

AH LANG, WHY ARE YOU BACK SO EARLY TODAY?
DIDN'T LORD SIKONG KEEP YOU FOR DINNER?

WHY DO YOU ASK?

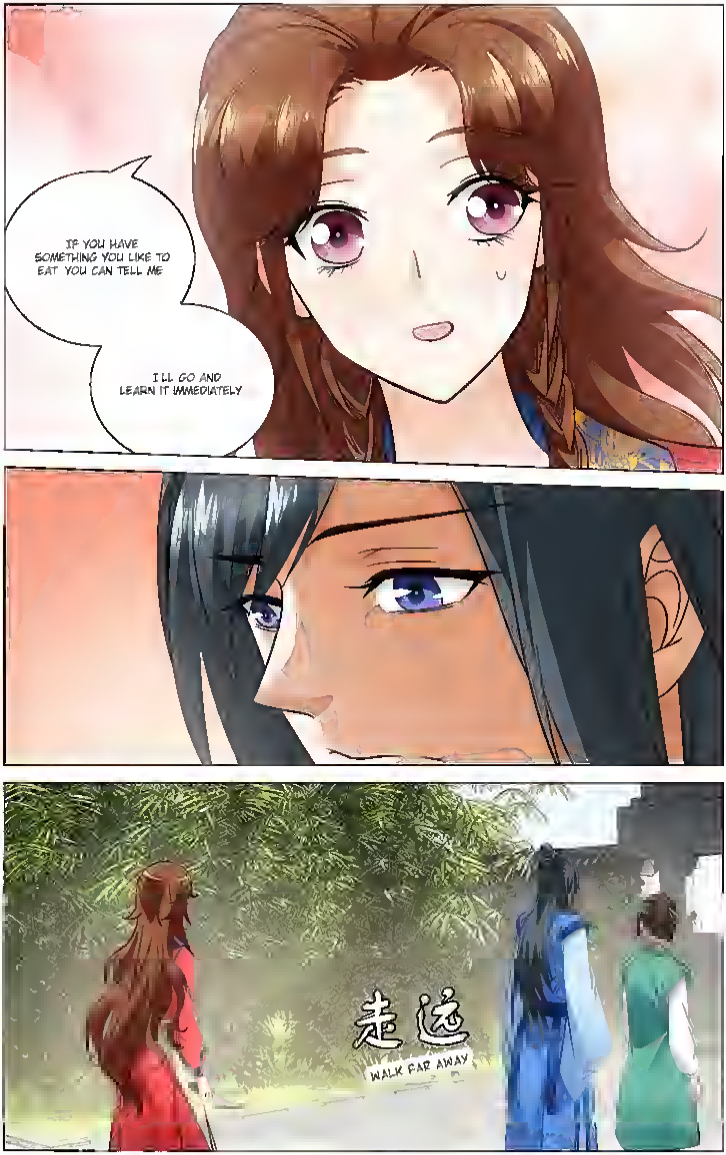
THE PRINCESS HAS GIVEN A HOLIDAY TO ALL THE MAIDS IN THE KITCHEN
I HEAR SHE IS LEARNING HOW TO COOK
THE PRINCE IS BACK!

JUST ON TIME THE FOOD IS ALMOST READY!

YES!
BUT YOU CAN REST ASSURED PRINCE
I CAN NOW RECOGNIZE INGREDIENTS AND FOOD FROM THE CENTRAL PLAINS ZHONGYUAN SO I WON'T GET THEM MIXED UP AGAIN!
BY YOUR HANDS?

BESIDES, IN THE LAST FEW DAYS I HAVE BEEN IN CHARGE OF THE FOOD!
EVERYONE IS SO HAPPY EATING IT!
ARE YOU HAPPY?
QUE YAN IS HAPPY... QUE YAN IS VERY HAPPY...
PRINCE...
WILL YOU BE COMING TO THE DINING ROOM TO EAT TONIGHT?

.....
DEPENDS IF I CAN FINISH MY BUSINESS
PRINCE...
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, SAY IT AT ONCE


IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU LIKE TO EAT YOU CAN TELL ME
I'LL GO AND LEARN IT IMMEDIATELY
走远
WALK FAR AWAY

HAPPY
开心
CRAP! I FORGOT ABOUT THE STEWED RIBS IN THE POT!

Mystic Crescent Scans
PRINCE, DON'T DO THIS!
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